Evaluation of rural job schemes

2912. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB PEEVEE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to carry out an independent evaluation of the rural job schemes; and

(b) if so, the follow up action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Development through State Governments and Union Territory Administrations is implementing the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) as wage employment programme and Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozger Yojana (SGSY) as self employment programme in all the rural areas of the country. Evaluation of every rural development programme, including the employment generation schemes are done periodically through independent agencies. The Ministry has engaged Professional Institutions like Indian Institute of Technologies (IITs), Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), Agricultural Universities and other Social Sector Institutions for independent evaluation and impact assessment of NREGA.

Estimation of poverty in the country

2913. SHRI N. R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether about 38 per cent of the country's population are poor according to a committee of Government to estimate poverty;

(b) whether this figure is 10 per cent higher than the present poverty estimate;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether in June this year another Rural Development Committee estimated 50 per cent Indians were poor against Planning Commission's figure of 28.5 per cent; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by Government to identify correctly the figure of poor for exact targeting of scores of Government schemes meant for the poor people in the our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (c) The Expert Group set up by the Planning Commission under the Chairmanship of Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar to review the methodology for estimation of poverty has just submitted it report on 8-12-2009 which has redefined the poverty line, according to which, the poverty ratio in the country was 37.2 percent in 2004-05 as against the poverty ratio of 27.5 percent of the Planning Commission.

(d) The terms of reference of the Expert Group under the chairmanship of Dr. N.C. Saxena to advise the Ministry of Rural Development on the methodology for conducting the Below Poverty Line (BPL) Census for the Eleventh Five Year Plan does not include

estimation of poverty. However in the Report submitted by the Expert Group on 21st August 2009 it is mentioned that the percentage of people entitled to BPL status should be revised upwards to at least 50%.

(e) The Planning Commission is examining the Report of the Expert Group headed by Professor Suresh D. Tendulkar for suitable action.

ARWSP in Maharashtra

2914. SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK:
SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of villages covered under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) in Maharashtra, district-wise;

(b) the total number of villages yet to be covered under ARWSP in the State; and

(c) whether Government proposes to cover the left over villages so far in Maharashtra under ARWSP during the current year, 2009-10?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI AGATHA SANGMA): (a) and (b) The number of habitations fully covered and partially covered under rural water supply schemes in all districts of Maharashtra is given in Statement. (*See* below)

(c) The Government of Maharashtra has taken up schemes for 11639 partially covered habitations in 2009-10, of which schemes covering 4008 such habitations is reported complete by November 2009. The target for 2010-11 is 8014 partially covered habitations.

Statement

Status of habitations in Maharashtra

S. No.	District Name	Total Habitations	Habitations with 100% Population Coverage	Habitations with Partial Population Coverage
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Ahmednagar	7475	5865	1610
2.	Akola	872	670	202
3.	Amravati	1687	1224	463
4.	Aurangabad	1969	1476	493
5.	Beed	3413	2721	692
6.	Bhandara	796	615	181
7.	Buldana	1364	822	542